

Application No. 10/564,647
Amendment Dated June 1, 2009
Reply to Office Action of March 31, 2009

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An isolated specific binding member for human IL-13, comprising an antibody antigen-binding site which is composed of a human antibody VH domain and a human antibody VL domain and which comprises a set of CDRs HCDR1, HCDR2, HCDR3, LCDR1, LCDR2 and LCDR3, wherein the VH domain comprises HCDR 1, HCDR2 and HCDR3 and the VL domain comprises LCDR1, LCDR2 and LCDR3, wherein the set of CDRs consists of a set of CDRs selected from the group consisting of:

the BAK278D6 set of CDRs, defined wherein the HCDR1 has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, the HCDR2 has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, the HCDR3 has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3, the LCDR1 has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, the LCDR2 has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5, and the LCDR3 has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6,

a set of CDRs which contains one or two amino acid substitutions compared with the BAK278D6 set of CDRs wherein the one or the two substitutions are at one or two of the following residues within the CDRs, using the standard numbering of Kabat:

31, 32, 34 in HCDR1

52, 52A, 53, 54, 56, 58, 60, 61, 62, 64, 65 in HCDR2

96, 97, 98, 99, 101 in HCDR3

26, 27, 28, 30, 31 in LCDR1

56 in LCDR2

95A, 97 in LCDR3, and

each set of CDRs as shown for individual clones in Table 1.

2. (canceled)

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3. (previously presented) An isolated specific binding member according to claim 1 wherein the one or two substitutions are made at the following positions from among the identified groups of possible substitute residues for each position:

Position of substitution	Substitute Residue of selected from the group substitution consisting of
31 in HCDR1:	Q, D, L, G and E
32 in HCDR1:	T
34 in HCDR1:	V, I and F
52 in HCDR2:	D, N, A, R, G and E
52A in HCDR2:	D, G, T, P, N and Y
53 in HCDR2:	D, L, A, P, T, S, I and R
54 in HCDR2:	S, T, D, G, K and I
56 in HCDR2:	T, E, Q, L, Y, N, V, A, M and G
58 in HCDR2:	I, L, Q, S, M, H, D and K
60 in HCDR2:	R
61 in HCDR2:	R
62 in HCDR2:	K and G
64 in HCDR2:	R
65 in HCDR2:	K
96 in HCDR3:	R and D
97 in HCDR3:	N, D, T and P
98 in HCDR3:	R
99 in HCDR3:	S, A, I, R, P and K
101 in HCDR3:	Y
26 in LCDR1:	D and S
27 in LCDR1:	I, L, M, C, V, K, Y, F, R, T, S, A, H and G
28 in LCDR1:	V
30 in LCDR1:	G
31 in LCDR1:	R

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56 in LCDR2:	T
95A in LCDR3:	N
97 in LCDR3:	I

4. (original) An isolated specific binding member according to claim 3 wherein there are two substitutions compared with the BAK278D6 set of CDRs, at HCDR3 residue 99 and LCDR1 residue 27.

5. (original) An isolated specific binding member according to claim 4 comprising the BAK278D6 set of CDRs with a substitution at HCDR3 residue 99 selected from the group consisting of S, A, I, R, P and K and/or a substitution at LCDR1 residue 27 selected from the group consisting of I, L, M, C, V, K, Y, F, R, T, S, A, H and G.

6. (original) An isolated specific binding member according to claim 4 comprising the BAK278D6 set of CDRs with S substituted for N at HCDR3 residue 99 and/or I substituted for N at LCDR 1 residue 27.

7. (previously presented) An isolated specific binding member according to claim 1 wherein HCDR1, HCDR2 and HCDR3 of the VH domain are within a germ-line framework and/or LCDR1, LCDR2 and LCDR3 of the VL domain are within a germ-line framework.

8. (original) An isolated specific binding member according to claim 7 wherein the HCDR1, HCDR2 and HCDR3 of the VH domain are within germ-line framework VH1 DP14.

9. (previously presented) An isolated specific binding member according to claim 7 wherein the LCDR1, LCDR2 and LCDR3 of the VL domain are within germ-line framework VL Vλ 3h.

10. (previously presented) An isolated specific binding member according to claim 1 which binds a human IL-13 variant in which arginine at position 130 is replaced by glutamine.

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11. (previously presented) An isolated specific binding member according to claim 1 which binds non-human primate IL-13.

12. (original) An isolated specific binding member according to claim 11 wherein the non-human primate IL-13 is rhesus or cynomolgus.

13. (previously presented) A specific binding member according to claim 8 comprising the BAK502G9 VH domain (SEQ ID NO: 15).

14. (previously presented) A specific binding member according to claim 8 further comprising the BAK502G9 VL domain (SEQ ID NO: 16).

15. (previously presented) A specific binding member according to claim 1 that binds IL-13 with affinity equal to or better than the affinity of an IL-13 antigen-binding site formed by the BAK502G9 VH domain (SEQ ID NO: 15) and the BAK502G9 VL domain (SEQ ID NO: 16), the affinity of the specific binding member and the affinity of the antigen-binding site being as determined under the same conditions.

16. (previously presented) A specific binding member according to claim 1 that neutralizes human IL-13.

17. (original) A specific binding member according to claim 16 that neutralizes human IL-13, with a potency equal to or better than the potency of a IL-13 antigen-binding site formed by the BAK502G9 VH domain (SEQ ID NO: 15) and the BAK502G9 VL domain (SEQ ID NO: 16), the potency of the specific binding member and the potency of the antigen-binding site being as determined under the same conditions.

18. (previously presented) A specific binding member according to claims 1 that comprises an scFv antibody molecule.

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19. (previously presented) A specific binding member according to claim 1 that comprises an antibody constant region.

20. (original) A specific binding member according to claim 19 that comprises a whole antibody.

21. (original) A specific binding member according to claim 20 wherein the whole antibody is IgG4.

22.-23. (canceled)

24. (previously presented) A composition comprising a specific binding member, antibody VH domain or antibody VL according to claim 1, and at least one additional component.

25. (original) A composition according to claim 24 comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, vehicle or carrier.

26.-55. (canceled)

56. (withdrawn) A method comprising binding a specific binding member that binds IL-13 according to claim 1 to human IL-13 or a fragment of human IL-13.

57. (withdrawn; currently amended) A method according to claim ~~55~~56 wherein said binding takes place in vitro.

58. (withdrawn; currently amended) A method according to claim ~~55~~56 comprising determining the amount of binding of specific binding member to IL-13 or a fragment of IL-13.

59.-60. (canceled)

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61. (withdrawn) A method of treatment of a disease or disorder selected from the group consisting of asthma, atopic dermatitis, allergic rhinitis, fibrosis and Hodgkin's lymphoma, the method comprising administering a specific binding member according to claim 1 to a patient with the disease or disorder or at risk of developing the disease or disorder.

62.-91. (canceled)